

CONFIDENTIAL**EXCISE**

877

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : NEA - Mr. Rountree

DATE: October 17, 1956

FROM : NE - Fraser Wilkins

SUBJECT: Proposed State Visit By King Saud.

Discussion:

In response to Mr. Oulashin's memo of October 5th concerning State visits in 1957 we propose that King Saud be invited. While the King, as Crown Prince, visited the United States for six weeks in 1947, no reigning monarch of Saudi Arabia has ever visited this country.

Such a visit, we believe, would be justified, not only by the close and friendly relations which have existed between our two countries for the past twenty years, but also by the particular desirability at this time of increasing our influence with the King and his principal advisers.

We have reason to believe the King desires and would welcome such an invitation.

Recommendation:

That NEA propose an invitation to King Saud for a state visit.

Extension of invitation to King Saud should be held in abeyance until its extension could be keyed to DAF negotiations at some other significant development in US-SA relations.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY RM DATE 4/15/81

PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

NEA:NE:DDNewsom:mkd

CONFIDENTIAL

786A.11/10-1756

NOV 16 1956

FILED/CST

CONFIDENTIAL